

Grenfell Support News

Council to take on managing homes across the borough



Kensington & Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation (the TMO) is handing back management of homes to Kensington and Chelsea Council. The Council took over managing homes across the Lancaster West Estate in **August 2017** and will take over the management of the borough's homes from **1 March** this year.

This change will not have a big impact on residents however, over the coming weeks and months residents will start to see some small changes to services. Residents will still be able to contact the Council to make repair requests, complaints and enquiries through the Baseline office, **Unit 2, Baseline Studios, Whitchurch Road**. Residents can use the current phone number to make requests, **0800 137 1111**.

The Council will be reviewing the current service, which we know has

not always met your expectations, and will now prioritise the delivery of repairs and major improvement works. This is only a temporary measure – the Council is not taking over the responsibility of your homes for good. It will run services and continue to improve them while you, the residents across the borough, decide how you want your homes managed in the future. There will be formal consultation on the future plans.

The TMO will continue to exist as a legal entity so it can be called to the public inquiry and held to account in any criminal or civil legal proceedings that may take place in the future.

Our website www.rbkc.gov.uk will continue to be updated with future developments.

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For regular updates please follow us

 [@grenfellsupport](https://twitter.com/grenfellsupport)

 facebook.com/grenfellsupport

 www.grenfellresponse.org.uk

The newsletter is also available in Arabic and Farsi languages.

Residents to shape Grenfell Scrutiny meeting

The Council is looking at changing the structure of the Grenfell Scrutiny Recovery Committee (GRSC) meetings after residents voiced their concerns over the way the meetings had been held and the lack of opportunity for them to have their say.

The latest GRSC, which was held on **Thursday 15 February**, focused on how to better represent local people and local voluntary, community and faith groups at future meetings. It also considered what type of meeting might better ensure the Committee delivers positive results for everyone affected by the Grenfell tragedy.

The aim of all scrutiny committees is to make the work of the Council more effective, and a large part of achieving this rests on making sure that local people's voices are heard and responded to. Local residents are therefore playing a big role in helping to shape the future of these meetings.

You will be able to find updates on how the Grenfell Recovery Scrutiny meeting is developing on the Grenfell Support website www.grenfellsupport.org.uk

Citizens Advice offer help to those affected by Grenfell Tower tragedy

Citizens Advice Bureau in Kensington and Chelsea has set up a specialist money advice service to help bereaved families and everyone who was affected by the Grenfell tragedy who have received charitable donations raised in the aftermath. The service focuses on providing advice around money management and the steps people can take to ensure their long-term financial security.

Families and survivors can access help at the **Citizens Advice office** in, **Acklam Road, W10**, and through the local centres supporting the service. These include: Rugby

Portobello Trust; Al-Manaar Cultural Centre; Clement James Centre, Al-Hasaniya; The Curve Community Centre; the Family and Friends Assistance Centre; Dadihiye Somali Development Organisation; Midaye Somali Development Network and North Kensington Library.

Citizens Advice in Kensington and Chelsea also offers advice on housing, employment, welfare, immigration, consumer and family issues.



Women's yoga

Increase your physical activity, learn relaxation techniques and improve your strength and balance! Join the free yoga sessions for women which will begin with an interesting motivational talk on the benefits of physical activity. This is a four-week session.

Dates:

- **Monday 19 February 2018**
- **Monday 26 February 2018**
- **Monday 5 March 2018**
- **Monday 12 March 2018**

Time: 12pm to 1pm for all sessions

Venue: Dalgarno Trust, 1 Webb Close, Dalgarno Way, W10 5QB

To take part please contact Davendra on **020 8969 6300** / davendra@dalgarnotrust.org.uk



Uprising youth leadership programme

The Curve Community Centre hosted the first UpRising youth leadership event in West London at the end of January. Thirty 19 to 25 year olds, many from the area surrounding the Grenfell Tower, attended the session.

This was part of a nine-month programme organised by UpRising, a youth leadership development organisation, that looks to champion critical issues around diversity, social mobility and equality and develop the next generation of leaders. The group starts with a weekend session and then meets weekly for the remaining months.

This session focused on leadership, support and motivating yourself to be the best person you can be. There

was a key speech from a member of the Youth Council who shared how she had overcome her fear of speaking in front of large groups of people. She hadn't let fear hold her back in life and wanted to inspire this group of young people to do the same. The Curve looks forward to hosting the group again on Tuesday.

If you are interested in attending a future programme, please contact UpRising directly on: **020 3745 7960** or email: hello@uprising.org.uk and check out their website for further details: <http://uprising.org.uk/>

If you have any questions or would like more information email elect@rbkc.gov.uk



Activities and events at The Curve Community Centre

Next week The Curve Community Centre will be celebrating Moroccan Week so come along and take part in their activities!

Moroccan Week at The Curve

Tuesday 20 February

- Mapping memory routes (drop-in) – 12 to 6pm

Wednesday 21 February

- Arabic Coffee Morning – 10am to 12pm
- Mapping memory routes (drop-in) – 10am to 6pm

Thursday 22 February

- Mapping memory routes (drop-in) – 10am to 1pm
- Moroccan Movie Night – 5 to 7pm

Book your place, please email thecurve@rbkc.gov.uk or speak to a member of Curve staff.

Friday 23 February

- Moroccan Day – All day event

Come along in Moroccan attire! Moroccan music will be played and traditional food served from 5 to 7pm



Other events at The Curve Community Centre:

Saturday 17 February

- Singing performances from Omnia – 3 to 4pm – Everyone welcome

Join us for an afternoon of singing performance from Omnia Voices.

Monday 19 February

- More learning and play – 12 to 3pm – please book as places are limited
- CV and Job search workshops – 3 to 5pm – please book as places are limited
- Homework Club – 5 to 7pm – age 11 to 16
- English for Beginners Classes (pre ESOL) – 6 to 8pm – limited spaces, please book

Learning to communicate in every day situations, dealing with different situations such as appointments at the bank, school, GP surgery, Home Office or the Council.

Tuesday 20 February

- Sewing Club – sew, stitch and knit – 10am to 3pm
- English as a Second Language (ESOL) – 9.30am to 12pm and 12.30 to 2pm – limited spaces, please book
- Helping children deal with loss – 10.30am to 12.30pm – limited spaces, please book

Children's yoga – 5 to 6pm – age five to 12

- Adult yoga – 6 to 7pm

Wednesday 21 February

- Arabic Coffee Morning – 10am to 12pm
- Print making with Heather 10am to 12pm
- Life coaching – 1 to 3pm – please book
- English for Beginners Classes (pre ESOL) – 6 to 8pm – limited spaces, please book
- Book your children's healthy snack time after school – 4 to 4.45pm (Maximum 12 children)
- Homework club – 5 to 7pm – age five to 11

Thursday 22 February

- Helping children deal with loss – 10.30am to 12.30pm
- Chair yoga (drop in) – 2 to 3pm
- CV and Job search workshops – 2 to 4pm – please book as places are limited
- Book your children's healthy snack time after school – 4 to 4.45pm (Maximum 12 children)
- MEND family activity – 4 to 5.45pm
- Therapeutic Arts – 4 to 6pm – age five to 11

Friday 23 February

- English Communication and Conversation class with Midaye – 9.30 to 11.30am

Join a friendly, relaxed session focused on communication and building confidence. All welcome.

- Parent support (drop-in) – 1 to 3pm
- Back to work support and advice (drop-in) – 2 to 4pm
- Book your children's healthy snack time after school – 4 to 4.45pm (Maximum 12 children)

The next Interim Board of Governors will take place at The Curve Community Centre on **Thursday 22 February** from **6 to 7.30pm**. This is a closed meeting for Governors. The minutes will be available on our website within two days of the meeting.

The Crèche is open 10am to 12pm and 1 to 3pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and is for parents attending appointments or courses at The Curve. To book, please email: Semira.Hassen@rbkc.gov.uk



The Curve Community Centre opening hours are **10am to 8pm Monday to Friday** and **11am to 6pm on weekends**.

Some sessions need to be booked in advance, email thecurve@rbkc.gov.uk and they will confirm your reservation by return.



For a full list of events visit grenfellsupport.org.uk/thecurve/events

Support services on offer

Anyone who would like to speak to the police in relation to the investigation into the fire is asked to contact the Met Police on **0800 032 4539**.

Important Contacts

Bereavement support

Call the Freephone helpline on **0808 808 1677** or email **helpline@cruse.org.uk**. The line is open 24 hours a day.

Replacement UK passports, visas or immigration queries

Call our advice line on **0300 303 2832**. The line is open 24 hours.

Air quality and smoke exposure

If you have concerns about any symptoms, please see your doctor or call NHS **111**.

Housing support

If you have any questions about housing or want to find out who your housing officer is please call **0800 137 111** or **020 7361 3008**.

Victim support

Call **0808 1689 111** for practical and emotional support, or visit **victimsupport.org.uk**. The line is open 24 hours a day.

The Grenfell Muslim Response Unit also offers additional support. Find out more by emailing **info@gmru.co.uk**

You can also get physical and mental support at **The Curve Community Centre**. Find out more by calling **07712 231 133**.

Housing update

Grenfell Tower and Grenfell Walk



We have committed £235 million to finding new homes for residents and have now secured 307 properties for families. We invite households to choose which properties they want to view from all those available on our Home Connections website. Households currently living in temporary accommodation provided by the Council or our partners, also have the option to make these properties their permanent home if they wish. For those households living in hotels and who wish to move into a temporary home, we will help to find private rented accommodation. We will help with furniture, bedding, crockery and cutlery, white goods and utilities.



Total number of households



Households in emergency accommodation



Households moved into accommodation

Temporary 62

Permanent 59



Accommodation offers accepted

Temporary 8

Permanent 54

These numbers are accurate as of **15 February 2018**

Interview Skills Day

Come down to the **Clement James Centre, 95 Sidar Road, W11 4EQ** on **Thursday 22 February 2018** from **9.45am to 3pm** to get great interview skills. On the day you will:

- Work one to one with a volunteer on interview tips
- Focus on your skills and interests

- Meet corporate volunteers who are experts at interviewing
- Find out what advice and guidance they can give about employment

Places are limited so please email **Charlie.gorham@clementjames.org** to reserve your place or call **020 7792 9189** to find out further information.

Care for Grenfell

The Care for Grenfell team helps anyone who has been affected by the Grenfell tragedy and offers a single point of access to all Council services and support.

This phone line is open from 8am to 8pm and also provides an out-of-hours service which can be reached on the same number.

Call: **020 7745 6414** | Email: **careforgrenfell@rbkc.gov.uk**

How can we improve Grenfell Support newsletter?

The newsletter has taken on board feedback from residents to improve content and design.

If you have any ideas for articles for this newsletter, email us on **CommsTeam@rbkc.gov.uk**

You can now subscribe to receive this newsletter via email, use this link to sign up **grenfellsupport.org.uk/newsletters**